

MISC

PROTOCOLS & THE WEB

IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY

- **Sign up:** www.umisc.info/signup
- If you're on Windows, consider installing WSL
<https://aka.ms/wslinstall>
- GitHub for slides: <https://github.com/umisc/workshops>



WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

- OSI Model & TCP/IP Model
- The Internet
- HTTP
- Tools
- Other Protocols
- Solve some challenges!



OSI MODEL

- Conceptual model to **describe a method** for communications between computers
- Allows for interoperability with **standard protocols**
- Consists of **7 layers**, each perform a specific function and interact only with **adjacent layers**
- Models communication all the way from raw electrical signals to high level applications



TCP/IP MODEL

- Conceptual model similar to the OSI model
- More **pragmatic** than OSI
 - Has become the **standard** for networking (and the internet)
- Consists of **4 layers** which can be *roughly mapped* to the 7 layers of the OSI model

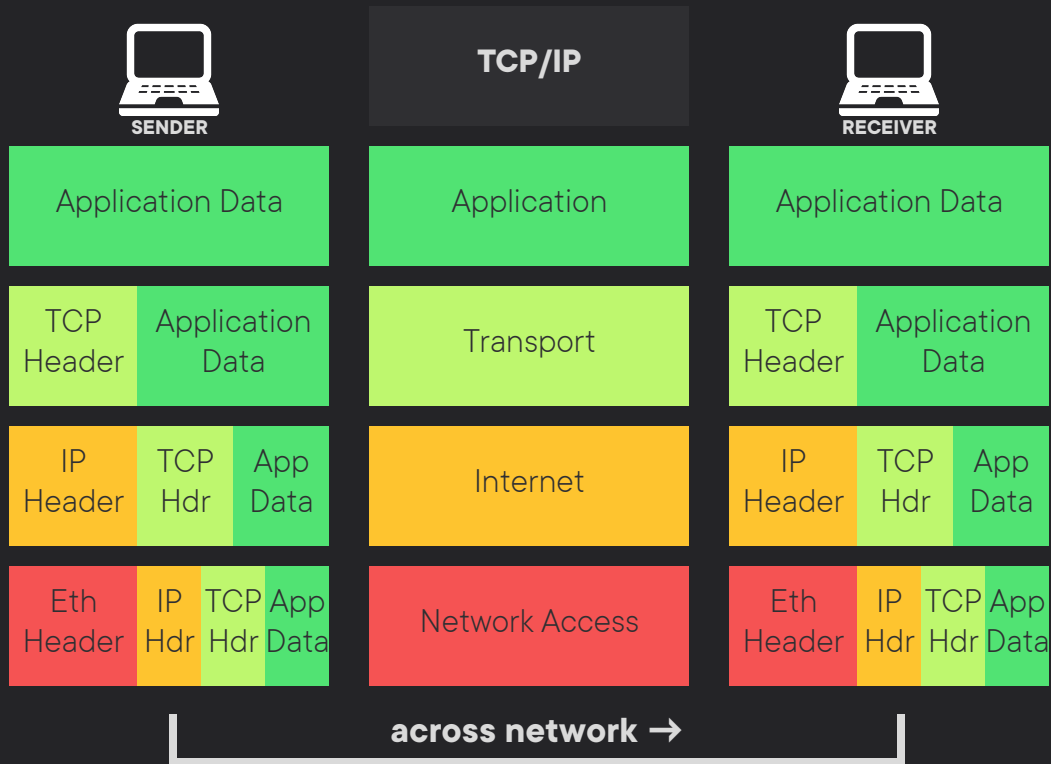


OSI VS. TCP/IP

TCP/IP	OSI	
Application	Application	HOST LAYERS
	Presentation	
	Session	
Transport	Transport	MEDIA LAYERS
Internet	Network	
Network Access	Data Link	
	Physical	



{EN,DE}CAPSULATION



THE INTERNET

- A massive **network of networks**
- Follows the TCP/IP model
- Every host has an **IP address**
- Programs/services **listen** on a port on a host
- Devices external to the network can connect to a service using a **public IP address** and a **port**



APPLICATION PROTOCOLS



WHAT IS A PROTOCOL?

- A set of rules that **describe** how to communicate
- Most protocols have public documents ([RFCs](#)) which act as **specifications** and **implementation guides**
- Once there is a TCP connection established, application protocols are used to allow for **meaningful** conversations



HTTP IS THE PROTOCOL THAT RUNS THE WEB



HTTP

- Specifications in [RFC 2616](#)
- Client/server model:
 - Client **requests** data and resources
 - Server **responds** with data and resources
- **Stateless**
- Used to transfer HTML documents, CSS (stylesheets), JS (scripts), images, videos, etc.
- A HTTP conversation consists of **request** and **response** messages



AN ASIDE ON URLS

http://www.google.com/search?q=hello

scheme	hostname	path	query
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HTTP REQUESTS

A HTTP request message consists of:

- A request line
 - e.g. `GET /search?q=hello HTTP/1.1`
 - generic form `<METHOD> <PATH> <VERSION>`
- Request header fields (can be many lines)
 - e.g. `Host: google.com`
 - generic form: `Header: Value`
- An empty line
- An optional message body



THAT'S IT



HTTP RESPONSES

A HTTP response message consists of:

- A status line
 - e.g. `HTTP/1.1 200 OK`
 - generic form `<VERSION> <STATUSCODE> <MSG>`
- Response header fields (can be many lines)
 - e.g. `Content-Type: text/javascript`
 - generic form: `Header: Value`
- An empty line
- An optional message body



HTTP REQUEST METHODS

Method	Description
GET	Used to retrieve data; should have no side effects
HEAD	Requests for a response similar to a GET request, but includes only the response headers
POST	(Usually) sent with a body message and often causes a side effect on the server (e.g. saving something in a database)
PUT	Creates/updates a resource. Similar to a POST request, except multiple PUT request with the same body message has the same effect as just one
DELETE	Deletes the specified resource
OPTIONS	Requests for the capabilities of the server without implying an action on the resource

and more...



HTTP REQUEST HEADERS

Name	Description
Connection	Controls the connection (close , keep-alive , ...)
Content-Length	Length of the request body (for POST and PUT requests)
Content-Type	Type of data being sent in the request body (for POST and PUT requests)
Cookie	To maintain state (more later...)
Host	Specifies the domain name of the server. Mandatory (to enable response to different pages on the same server)
Referer	Address of the previous web page
User-Agent	Identifies the user agent (client) making the request

and many more...



HTTP RESPONSE HEADERS

Name	Description
Connection	Same as the request Connection header
Content-Length	Length of the response body
Content-Type	Type of data in the response body
Location	Used for redirects
Server	Names the server responding to the request
Set-Cookie	Instructs the client to set a cookie. The server can send multiple Set-Cookie headers to set multiple cookies

and many more...



HTTP RESPONSE CODES

Code	Status Message	Description
200	OK	Standard response for successful requests
301	Moved Permanently	Redirect to the URL given in the Location header
400	Bad Request	Client side error (e.g. invalid request body, request body too large, etc.)
401	Unauthorized	Authorization required to access resource
403	Forbidden	User has insufficient permissions for requested resource
405	Method Not Allowed	Unsupported request method for the requested resource
500	Internal Server Error	Generic error message server-side errors



HTTP EXAMPLE #1

Request:

```
HEAD / HTTP/1.1  
Host: www.umisc.info
```

Response:

```
HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently  
Date: Fri, 06 Mar 2020 13:00:06 GMT  
Connection: keep-alive  
Cache-Control: max-age=3600  
Expires: Fri, 06 Mar 2020 14:00:06 GMT  
Location: https://www.umisc.info/  
Server: cloudflare  
CF-RAY: 56fc41e48bdedf85-MEL
```



HTTP EXAMPLE #2

Request:

```
POST /login HTTP/1.1
Host: www.example.com
Content-Type: application/json
Content-Length: 48

{"username":"misccat","password":"miscpassword"}
```

Response:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: Express
Set-Cookie: session_id=68616820676f6f64206f6e652121
```



HTTP EXAMPLE #3

Request:

```
GET /search?q=hello HTTP/1.1
Host: google.com
```

Response:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: gws
Content-Type: text/html
...

<!doctype html><html lang="en-AU"><head><meta charset="UTF-8"><meta content="/images/branding/googleg/1x/googleg_standard_color_128dp.png" itemprop="image"><title>hello - Google Search</title>...
```



COOKIES

- Cookies help to **maintain state**
- Servers instruct clients to store a cookie with the **Set - Cookie** response header.
- Client's responsibility to keep and send the cookie in the **Cookie** request header for future requests
- Almost all websites with a login feature uses cookies to **store sessions**
 - It can be very bad if the session isn't saved and validated **server-side**



HTTP EXAMPLE #4

Request 1:

```
GET /dashboard HTTP/1.1  
Host: www.example.com  
User-Agent: my hands
```

Response 1:

```
HTTP/1.1 302 Found  
Server: nginx  
Location: http://www.example.com/login  
Connection: keep-alive
```



HTTP EXAMPLE #4 ...

Request 2:

```
GET /login HTTP/1.1
Host: www.example.com
User-Agent: my hands
```

Response 2:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: nginx
Connection: keep-alive
Content-Type: text/html
```

```
<html><head><title>Login Page</title></head><body><form ac
tion="/login" method="post"><input type="text" name="usern
ame"><input type="text" name="password"><input type="submi
t" value="Submit"></form></body></html>
```



HTTP EXAMPLE #4 ...

Request 3:

```
POST /login HTTP/1.1
Host: www.example.com
User-Agent: my hands
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 29

username=admin&password=admin
```

Response 3:

```
HTTP/1.1 302 Found
Server: nginx
Connection: keep-alive
Set-Cookie: session_id=646d56796553426a6232397349516f3d
Location: http://www.example.com/dashboard
```



HTTP EXAMPLE #4 ...

Request 4:

```
GET /dashboard HTTP/1.1
Host: www.example.com
User-Agent: my hands
Cookie: session_id=646d56796553426a6232397349516f3d
```

Response 4:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: nginx
Connection: keep-alive
Content-Type: text/html

((dashboard html goes here...))
```



HTTP EXAMPLE #5 🙄

Request:

```
POST /login HTTP/1.1
Host: www.example.com
User-Agent: my hands

username=user&password=p4ssw0rd!
```

Response:

```
HTTP/1.1 302 Found
Server: nginx
Connection: keep-alive
Location: http://www.example.com/dashboard
Set-Cookie: username=user
Set-Cookie: admin=False
```



TAKEAWAYS

- HTTP requests and responses are just **pieces of text** formatted according to the specifications
- It's up to the server how to interpret *most* of the things sent in the request
 - For example, the server may decide to respond **403** to all requests with the **User-Agent** containing the word **"Windows"**
- Your web browser automatically generates and sends data, but that doesn't mean you can't edit it yourself!
- **Always analyse network requests!**



USEFUL TOOLS

- [nc](#) - create TCP and UDP connections, also has the ability to listen for TCP and UDP connections. Comes installed with most Linux distributions
- [curl](#) - transfer data using URLs. Comes installed with most Linux distributions
- [httpie](#) - easy to use command line HTTP client
- [Burp Suite](#) - GUI program with a proxy (amongst other things) to intercept and edit HTTP traffic
- [Firefox](#) - good web browser with good dev tools
- [pwntools](#) - python library that makes life easier



NC USAGE

- Connect to host `example.com` listening on port `443`:
 - `nc example.com 443`
- Connect to host `example.com` listening on port `443` and send `CRLF` line-ending (e.g. for SMTP and HTTP):
 - `nc -C example.com 443`
- Listen for TCP connections on port `1337`:
 - `nc -lvp 1337`



HTTPIE USAGE

- GET request to `http://google.com`:
 - `http google.com`
- POST JSON data to `example.com/login`:
 - `http POST example.com/login user=admin pass=admin`
- GET request to `example.com` with custom header:
 - `http example.com MyHeader:Value123`
- GET request to `example.com`, print headers:
 - `http -p hH example.com`



PWNTOOLS USAGE

Connect to host `google.com` listening on port `80` and send/receive some data:

```
from pwn import *
conn = remote('google.com', 80)
conn.sendline(b'GET /search?q=hello HTTP/1.1\r')
conn.sendline(b'Host: www.google.com\r')
conn.sendline('\r')
print(conn.recv().decode())
```

Results in:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Type: text/html; charset=ISO-8859-1
...
```



SMTP

- Specified in [RFC 5321](#)
- Assigned to port 25
- Basic procedure as follows:
 - **HELO [domain_name]** identifies the client
 - **MAIL FROM:<[email_addr]>** initiates mail transaction
 - **RCPT TO:<[email_addr]>** identifies recipient(s)
 - **DATA** - begins reading data to be sent



FTP

- Specified in [RFC 959](#)
- Assigned to port 21
- Used to transfer files between a client and a server
- Can be configured to allow **anonymous access**
- Most browsers implement an FTP client



CHALLENGES!

<http://workshop-ctf.umisc.info>

- Easy: **Basics I, Basics II, Basics III, Hidden FTP**
- Medium: **Misccat's Flag Delivery Service, TCP Phonebook**
- Hard: **HTTP Server 3000**

